REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of July 1, 2008 issued in relation to the present Patent Application, the Applicant submits Amendments to the claims, and the below Remarks.

Claims 1-6, 8-18 and 20 are presented for examination. Claim 1 is an independent claim.

Regarding 35 USC 103 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-17 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mi et al. (US 2002/0116616) in view of Weiner (US 7,273,483) and Shiell et al. (US 6,065,113).

Claims 4, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mi et al. in view of Weiner and Shiell et al., and further in view of Debry (US 6,314,521).

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mi et al. in view of Weiner and Shiell et al., and further in view of Collins et al (US 7,055,029).

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate therein the feature(s) from former claim 7. Claim 7 has been cancelled from the application.

In rejecting claim 1 the examiner refers to paragraph [0021] of Mi, asserting that the processor number of Mi stored in a constant ROM teaches permanently storing the identifier defined in claim 1. It is noted that paragraph [0021] teaches that the processor number is only statistically unique, "it is possible for more than platform or device to have the same processor number".

In rejecting claim 7 the Examiner asserts that Mi as modified teaches in paragraph [0024] the identifier being mapped to a key through an XOR function.

Applicant respectfully disagrees. The processor number referred to in paragraph [0021] which may be stored in a constant ROM is the processor number, which is part of the embedded information 211 of the client computer 200. Paragraph [0022] teaches that the processor identifier 209 may be a processor number loaded onto server 201 from a client computer 200. Paragraph [0023] teaches that a verification agent module 205, which is part

of the server 201, includes a plurality of verification agents 212. Each verification agent 212 containing programming instructions for accessing embedded information 211 (where the processor number of the client computer is stored), a secret key 214, and a calculator 215. The calculator 215 is for calculating a return value from the combination of embedded information 211 (where the processor number of the client computer is stored), secret key 214, and session identifier 213. Paragraph [0023] ends with "Where processor identifier 209 is derived from applying a function to the combination of a processor number and another value, verification agent 212 can include that other value in addition to secret key 214." It is thus the processor identifier 209 that may be derived from the processor number (stored in the embedded information 211) and the secret key 214. Thus, the secret key is never mapped from the processor number. The secret key is part of each verification agent 212. (Paragraph [0024]).
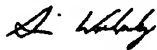
Thus, as there is no relationship between the identifier stored in the constant ROM of the client computer 200 and the secret key 214, it is submitted that claim 1, as amended, and all claims dependent on claim 1, are allowable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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